

Mustangs wrap up CBC 1st place with win

By Rick Paullus
The Heppner Mustangs wrapped up first place in the Columbia Basin Conference by shutting out the Wahtonka Eagles 20-0 at The Dalles, Friday, Nov. 1.

The Mustangs finished the regular season with a record of 5-1 in league and 7-2 overall. Heppner and Weston-McEwen finished tied at 5-1, but the Mustangs had beaten the TigerScots 22-6 earlier in the year.

The Mustangs' defense again led the way by completely shutting down the Eagles' offense. The Mustangs held on Wahtonka's first possession only to give the ball back on a fumbled pitch attempt. Sophomore Jake Roy followed that by recovering an Eagle fumble at the Mustangs' 44 yard line.

Quarterback Shane Matheny kept the ball on the option and ran for 30 yards. Derek Gunderson ran for 12 more down to the eight yard line. Gunderson then ran the final eight yards for the touchdown, with 3:29 left in the first quarter. Matheny ran in the two point conversion and the Mustangs led, 8-0.

The defense again held and the Mustangs took over at their own 15 after the Eagles' punt. Matheny kept for 13 yards and made a good pitch to Gunderson for 24 more yards.

The Eagles defense held from there and forced the only Mustang

punt of the game. Wahtonka was forced to punt the ball right back and the Mustangs took over at their own 29 yard line.

Michael Schonbachler started the drive by running for six yards and Gunderson ran for five more and a first down. Matheny ran for nine yards and Travis Wilhelm ran for five yards and another first down. After a short run, Matheny hit Casey Evans for eight yards and another first down. Levi Geer then ran twice for seven yards and five yards and another first down.

Faced with a fourth down and nine yards from the 21, Matheny hit Gunderson on a screen pass for 11 yards to the 10. Tim Dickenson carried seven yards and Gunderson ran the final three yards for his second touchdown of the game. The pass failed on the two point conversion attempt and the Mustangs led 14-0 at half-time.

Heppner received the second half kick off but gave the ball up on downs. The defense held and Matheny returned the Eagles' punt 20 yards to the Mustangs' 35 yard line.

Gunderson ran for 14 yards and Schonbachler ran for another 10. Matheny ran for eight more and Geer ran for four yards and another first down. A fumbled pitch gave the ball to Wahtonka at the 33 yard line.

Wilhelm then intercepted a

pass and returned it to the 26 yard line. The Eagles held however, but were forced to punt by a Tim Summer quarterback sack back to the 10.

The third quarter ended with the Mustangs still ahead, 14-0.

Wahtonka held and took over at their own 25 yard line. Evans then recovered a fumbled pass at the 24. Wilhelm ran 12 yards to the 12 yard line, but an offsides penalty move the ball back to the 17. Gunderson then ran 17 yards for his third touchdown of the game. The pass failed on the conversion and Heppner led, 20-0.

That was the way the game ended as Wahtonka could not move the ball and an interception by Clint Bellamy stopped the Eagles.

The defense was led by Clint Bellamy and Travis Wilson, each having 20 defensive points. Tim Summer had 18 and Casey Evans, 17 points. Tim Dickenson and Levi Geer each had 13 points and Brian Burnside had 10.

The offense was led by Derek Gunderson, who carried the ball 15 times for 106 yards and three touchdowns. Shane Matheny carried 11 times for 55 yards. Travis Wilhelm carried six times for 31 yards.

Matheny completed three passes in 13 attempts for 20 yards and had one pass intercepted.

Gunderson had one reception for 11 yards. Casey Evans caught

one pass for eight yards and Michael Schonbachler caught one pass for one yard.

The Mustangs will host the Enterprise Savages in the first round of state playoffs on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 1 p.m. The Savages are the number two team from the Wapiti League.

Statistics:
Heppner- 8-6-0-6-20
Wahtonka- 0-0-0-0-0
First quarter: Heppner-Derek Gunderson, eight yard run (Shane Matheny run).
Second quarter: Heppner-Gunderson, three yard run (pass failed).
Fourth quarter: Heppner-Gunderson 17 yard run (pass failed).
Individual rushing: Heppner-Gunderson 15-106, Matheny 11-55, Travis Wilhelm 6-31, Levi Geer 5-29, Michael Schonbachler 4-17, Tim Dickenson 1-7, Wahtonka-Williams 10-2, Epton 6-1, Nelson 1-0, Hager 9-(-6).
Passing: Heppner-Matheny 3-13-1-20, Wahtonka-Miller 4-13-2-25.
Receiving: Heppner-Gunderson 1-11, Evans 1-8, Schonbachler 1-1, Wahtonka-Shanklin 2-21, Cervantes 1-20, Miller 1-(-11).

Mustang volleyball team heads to state

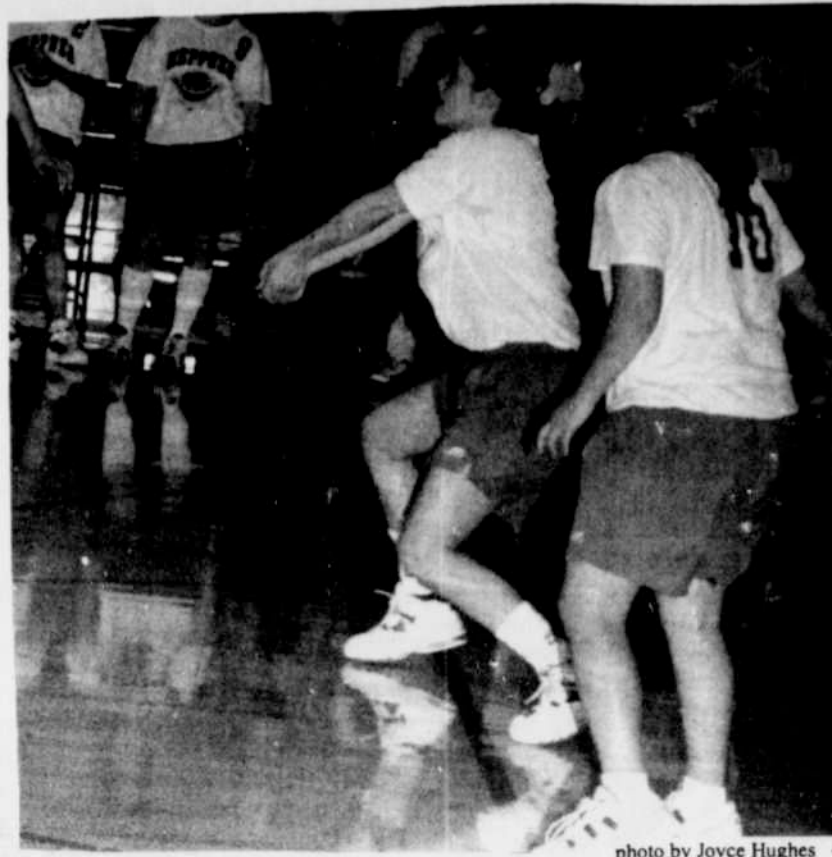


photo by Joyce Hughes

Petra Elguezabal returns a serve. No. 10 is Jaci Hughes.

By Molly Rhea

In a standing room only Heppner gym, the Mustangs proved that they belong among the top eight volleyball teams in the state. By trampling the Elgin Huskies, 15-7, 15-12, on Saturday, November 1, the Heppner Mustangs earned the right to advance into 2A championship bracket play at the University of Portland's Chiles Center Friday and Saturday, November 7 and 8.

The gym was tension-packed as the first seven servers in game one were unable to put up any score. Elgin drew first blood with Jessica Miller scoring points one through three off Mustang mistakes or penalties before the Huskies miss-hit on an attack. Then the Mustangs' Jessica (VanWinkle) stepped behind the service line to put Heppner in the lead. She scored point one with help from a Mindy Binschus save that set up a kill from Petra Elguezabal, point two off an Elgin penalty and worked her "off speed pitch" to ace points three and four.

Elgin earned a sideout and scored their fourth point before Binschus smashed down a kill to take the sideout for Heppner. After both teams missed their next serve attempt, Heppner's Jill Barber went back to score point five off a double block from Elguezabal and Lexi Matteson, point six off an Elgin hitting error and aced point seven. Elguezabal out-tipped the competition for point eight and point nine off an Elguezabal kill, before serving one outside of the line. Heppner's excitement was contagious as the Mustang bench joyfully acted out each attack.

Elgin's next serve went into foul territory to send Elguezabal back to serve. She went to the floor for a spectacular save to score point 10, then the Huskies received sideout off a Mustang penalty. Amy Daggett scored point five and six for the Huskies off Mustang miscues, then Annie Hisler shanked one off an Elgin blocker to take the ball back.

A Mustang serve into the net set up Elgin's Abrienne Wiles to score point seven. Heppner's enforcer, Mindy Binschus, sent their attempt at point eight smashing to the hardwood which put Annie Hisler behind the service line to score point 11 off an Elguezabal back row kill. The Husky team seemed to crumple when the Mustangs scored point 12 and Elgin called for a time out. After the pause Hisler continued serving to score Heppner's 13th point off an Elgin penalty, point 14 from a failed Husky attack and the game point with the help of a Jill Barber kill.

The teams switched courts and Elgin had the first serve to start out game two. The first Husky attack ended in the net to give the Mustangs sideout and Barber went back to ace the first two points for Heppner before committing a service error. Hisler thwarted Elgin's next service attempt with a kill.

The Mustangs were unable to score off Elguezabal's serve and Elgin's setter, Wiles, scored point one off a Mustang penalty and point two off a failed attack. Hisler leapt up and knocked down a kill to stifle the Huskies attempt at point three. Heppner's Amber Peck aced point three,

then the Huskies got the sideout off a Mustang penalty.

Elgin's Jessica Miller took the Huskies to a 6-3 lead by scoring points three through six off Mustang penalties and missed attacks. Down by three, coach Terri Gentry called for a timeout to regroup. This strategy seemed to work as Hisler smashed down another kill for the sideout and the chance to serve.

With a missed attack, the Mustangs were unable to score off Hisler's serve. This sent Elgin's Misty Durfee back to serve up point seven and give the Huskies a four-point lead. Elgin's next attack went wide and the sideout went to Heppner.

Heppner's next serve went into the net, then a kill from Mindy Binschus prevented Elgin from scoring on their next attempt. This sent Jaci Hughes back to serve for the Mustangs. Hughes scored point four, with help from a save by Hisler to set up another Elguezabal kill, and aced point five before Elgin's Courtney Koller killed the ball for sideout.

Jillian Chandler scored point eight for the Huskies off a Heppner penalty, then Annie Hisler back set to Jill Barber for the kill to gain sideout for the Mustangs. Barber scored Heppner's sixth point off a Lexi Matteson kill before the Mustangs lost the serve off a missed attack. Elgin's Daggett scored point nine, and the Heppner crowd heaved a sigh of relief when her attempt at point 10 went into the net. With Matteson contributing two more kills, Elguezabal scored points seven through nine to tie the score. The Huskies got the serve back on a penalty but were unable to score. Heppner missed the next serve to allow Elgin's Jessica Miller the chance to ace points 10 and 11 and earn point 12 on a Mustang penalty. Miller committed a foot fault to stop this scoring spree.

Down 9-12, Annie Hisler stepped back to ace Heppner's 10th point, scored point 11 behind the hitting of Jill Barber and racked up point 12 on an Elgin penalty before the Huskies were able to grab the sideout. Elgin's last server was unable to convert due to a penalty. Jessica VanWinkle capped the Mustangs victory by aching point 13, gained Heppner's 14th point off a missed

Elgin attack and scored the game point with Elgin in the net for a penalty.

"This is really exciting," said Gentry. "The girls started out a little tight, but they kept their heads in the game and worked hard to earn the win."

The Mustangs turned in an 88 percent service success. 100 percent service was contributed by Annie Hisler (11/11), Petra Elguezabal (8/8), and Jaci Hughes (3/3). Lexi Matteson ended the match successfully hitting 11/12 with five kills; Mindy Binschus hit 7/8 with four kills; Hisler hit 7/9 with four kills; Elguezabal had four kills hitting 5/6; and Jill Barber racked up three kills off 3/5 successful attempts.

ANSWERS TO THE GUESS THE GHOUL Contest

(How did you do?)



N.W. Motel



Peterson's Jewelers



Ployhar Insurance



Willow Lanes Cafe



Bucknum's Tavern



MC Abstract & Title



Klamath 1st Federal



Lott's Electric



Coast to Coast



Yaw's Restaurant



Les Schwab



Miller's Mini-Mart



Van Marter & Kahl



Gazette-Times



R&W Drive-In



Bank of Eastern Oregon



Gardner's Men's Wear

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNER!
ROSEANNE BAKER

of IONE